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MCDOWELL COUNTY
TRANSFER STATION
PERMIT NUMBER 56-02 T

OPERATIONS PLAN

Revised
January 2013
By County Staff

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JAN 14 2013

SOLID WASTE SECTION
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McDOWELL COUNTY TRANSFER STATION

OPERATIONS PLAN

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Introduction

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This operating plan for the McDowell County Transfer Station presents general guidance for transfer station operations. This plan updates the original operating plan submitted and approved on May 3, 1995 in conjunction with solid waste permit. The original permit, #56-02-T is included as Attachment I. The permit to operate was renewed in June 2001 following transfer station improvements which included the addition of a pre-engineering metal building and leachate collection system.

The Transfer Station Operating Plan consists of general information and operating procedures related to:

- Source, quantity and type of waste received
- Destination of the waste
- Handling of non-conforming waste
- Equipment
- General operations
- Fire control
- Vector control

GENERAL INFORMATION

The McDowell County transfer station is located at 3809 Highway 226 South in Marion, N.C. The transfer building is located approximately 1/2 mile off Highway 226 South along the entrance to the closed McDowell County landfill. Other County collection operations, such as yard waste, white goods, and used tires are also located along the entrance road. From Highway 226 South, the site is accessed via a paved access road adjacent to a County solid waste convenience area. The access road to the transfer facility becomes gravel once passing the convenience area. Fences and gates at the entrance area prevent un-authorized entry when the facility is closed.

The McDowell County transfer station is located in an un-zoned portion of the County. A copy of the original zoning letter dated March 29, 1994 is included as Attachment II.

McDowell County is the owner and permit holder of the transfer station. The County operates the transfer station and contracts with a private company to haul the waste to an approved North Carolina landfill. The contact personnel for the transfer station are:

Mike Gladden,
Public Works Director
60 East Court Street
Marion, NC 28752
Telephone (828) 659-2521

~~Transfer Station Supervisor~~
60 East Court Street
Marion, NC 28752
Telephone (828) 659-2521

SOURCES, TYPES AND QUANTITIES OF WASTE

The waste stream consists primarily of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) and Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste. Collection vehicles from McDowell County, the City of Marion and the City of Old Fort, as well as vehicles from several private waste collection companies use the transfer facility. The vehicles consist primarily of light trucks, specialized solid waste route collection trucks and contractor dump trucks.

The facility only handles waste generated from within McDowell County. The McDowell County Transfer Station handles practically all waste generated in McDowell County, including residential, commercial and industrial waste. In some isolated instances, waste may be disposed at other landfills or convenience centers. Such instances can occur when a citizen or company may find other disposal sources to be more convenient or cost effective. The transfer station does not accept waste from out of county sources. The transfer station may receive waste generated from another county when the waste source is incorrectly identified. A system of prepaid tickets is under review to assist in the control of waste imported to McDowell County solid waste facilities.

Designated areas are available near the transfer facility for the disposal of scrap tires. White goods and yard waste are processed within the transfer station permit area.

The transfer station does not accept infectious waste, medical waste, septic waste, liquid waste, sewage, radioactive waste or other hazardous waste. Animal carcasses are accepted from agencies such as County Animal Control and State and local highway maintenance crews.

On average, the facility will process approximately 120 tons of waste per day. Peak volumes of up to 225 tons may be experienced on a very limited basis. This represents the upper limit of waste volume that may be processed at the current facility. A peak waste day will require additional coordination with the hauling contractor for trailer availability. Although it is not always possible to forecast peak tonnage days, the County will plan for and coordinate traditionally heavy volume days with local generators and the hauling contractor to ensure regulatory compliance.

Transfer Station Operations

The transfer station operates from 7:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Saturdays. The County observes most recognized holidays. Closings will be posted at the facility and the public will be notified of closures through local media sources. Operating hours are sometimes modified to accommodate unusually heavy increases in waste deliveries and other operational fluctuations. In addition, waste hauling operations of trailers from the transfer station to the landfill occasionally occur before and after posted waste delivery hours.

The Transfer Station Supervisor controls daily operations. Operations consist of receiving and transferring waste from commercial (Private) and publicly owned vehicles to the transfer facility.

Segregated areas will be available at the site for arriving waste materials. Those areas are:

- 1) Transfer area for acceptable MSW, C&D and bulky waste
- 2) Yard waste area
- 3) White goods area
- 4) Scrap tire area

SIGNAGE

Signage will be displayed along the facility entry road and also at the scales. Signage will be kept correct and legible at all times. Signage will list the following information:

- 1) Days and hours of operation
- 2) Waste materials accepted
- 3) Waste materials NOT accepted
- 4) NC DENR Permit Number

EQUIPMENT

The County owns and operates the equipment used at the transfer station which consists of a rubber-tired articulated front-end loader. McDowell County has two other rubber-tired loaders that are available for back-up use in the event of equipment failure or downtime. This emergency equipment is located at McDowell County Fleet Facilities adjacent to the transfer area.

A hauling subcontractor provides the following equipment to the County:

- (6) Tipper type or walking floor, open-top trailers with sufficient capacity to handle the waste.
- (1) Spotter tractor

The Contractor has additional trailer availability when waste volume increases.

PERSONNEL

The facility operates with a minimum of five permanent employees. They are as follows:

- 1) Full time employees
 - 1-Scale operator
 - 1-White goods / yard waste center equipment operator
 - 1-Equipment operator TS
 - 1-Truck driver
 - 1-Supervisor
- 2) Part time employees
 - 1-Scale operator
 - 1-Attendent

The transfer facility also employs one full time inmate and Community Service Workers are available through the county court system. These workers are generally used for housekeeping duties such as wind-blown trash collection.

Trucking operations will haul loaded waste to an approved NC landfill. A contracted hauler supplies truck drivers. Presently, the contract hauler uses three tractors and drivers and seven waste trailers are assigned, depending on waste volume.

All employees are competent and well trained in management of solid waste. Each employee receives adequate training in solid waste handling and safety procedures. The Public Works Director and Transfer Station Supervisor have completed the Transfer Station Operator's course offered by the NC Chapter of SWANA and in turn train facility personnel. Each employee is trained in solid waste screening and a screening is conducted in accordance with State of North Carolina Solid Waste rules as required.

First aid and safety supplies are provided for each employee in the break room. Employees are required to report all injuries or illnesses and any unsafe work condition to the Transfer Station Supervisor.

SCAVENGING

No scavenging or salvaging of material is allowed on the site. Operational personnel may remove undesirable materials such as scrap tires, white goods and batteries from the tipping floor as needed.

VISITORS

Any visitor to the facility is required to be escorted by a member of the operating staff and may be required to wear protective equipment. All visitors must check in at the scale house and identify the purpose of their visit.

WASTE TRANSFER

Vehicles arriving at the site for waste transferring will first proceed across the scales. Vehicles are required to identify their waste as either yard waste, scrap tires, MSW or C&D. After determining that the waste is acceptable, weights are recorded for fee purposes and the scale operator directs the vehicle to the proper area for unloading.

Scrap Tire Transfer

Scrap tires are unloaded at a designated area located at the Department of Public-Works facility. This facility and tire drop area is adjacent to the Transfer site, is easily found and easily accessible. Site attendants at the transfer area direct all tires to this scrap tire area. Tires will be unloaded onto the ground rather than into a trailer. Tires will not remain on the ground longer than seven days in this area. A tire processor arrives weekly to collect the tires. The tires are grapple loaded by County employees into an open-top walking floor trailer for transportation.

Yard Waste Transfer

Yard waste is unloaded at a designated area located after the scales. Scale attendants direct all yard waste to this area. An attendant is available to oversee the yard waste area at all operational hours. Operational personnel push the yard waste into a compact area when necessary.

Yard waste is ground / chipped on a quarterly basis and product is removed from the collection area at the time of processing. A sub-contractor provides all equipment and labor to process and transport the yard waste. McDowell County does not retain or sell any processed yard waste.

The yard waste collection area is unpaved, but adequate site preparation has been done to allow proper access and drainage.

White Goods Transfer

Used white goods are unloaded at a designated area located after the scales. Scale attendants direct all white goods to this area. An attendant is available to oversee the white goods area during operating hours.

White goods processing and transportation will be performed by a subcontractor. Processing and transportation schedules are dictated by volume of used white goods collection. The subcontractor is responsible for all freon removal and reporting.

McDowell County maintains the area allowing for easy access and drop-off. Proper drainage will be maintained to prevent vector problems. Appliances are collected and stored in an upright position.

MSW Transfer

The MSW transfer area is a covered, 4,000 square foot tipping floor accommodating one trailer bay for transfer. Waste unloading is performed under the direction of the equipment operators on site. Equipment operators observe each vehicle unloading and note the presence of any unacceptable waste. If unacceptable waste is detected, the driver is ordered to place the waste back into his vehicle and remove it from the site. After collection vehicles exit the tipping area, equipment operators use front-end loaders to carefully push the waste into an open-top, tipper type transfer trailer. Equipment operators will distribute the load of waste in a manner to maximize the net load of each trailer, not to exceed maximum legal limits.

When a trailer has been filled, it is pulled from the loading bay; it is weighed, covered with a tarp and staged for transfer to an approved facility. An empty trailer is put in its place for filling. During peak times of the day, waste may be deposited on the tipping floor faster than it can be loaded into trailers. During these times, waste is stacked / stored by the equipment operators for later loading. During this temporary storage time, care is taken to assure that the waste is placed within the confines of the tipping floor and not outside the designated tipping area. The tipping floor will be clear of all waste at the close of business for that day. Full trailers waiting for transport are parked near the scales and scale building.

All trailer loads of waste will be transported within 24 hours of loading to an approved landfill.

HAZARD AND NUISANCE CONTROL

Hazards and nuisances at the transfer station consist of items such as dust, noise, odors, vectors, litter, fire and unacceptable waste. To reduce these hazards and nuisances, transfer station personnel are provided with and advised to use the following:

- Protective clothing
- Safety shoes
- Hardhats
- Protective Eyewear
- Gloves
- Hearing Protection devices
- Dust masks

Dust

Dust is caused by truck traffic on roadways. Entry roads to the transfer facility are gravel. Entry roads will be watered as necessary to dust created by on-site traffic.

Noise

The source of most objectionable noise at transfer stations is the exhaust noise from delivery trucks and loading equipment. The County maintains the exhaust system of all its equipment in a proper working manner. To minimize noise from waste delivery trucks, the County monitors trucks entering the facility and advises any trucks with improper equipment to repair the equipment before returning to the site.

Odor

Odor is difficult to control at a transfer station site. To minimize odor, all waste will be loaded into trailers as soon as possible. Operators also sweep or scrub the floor with the loader bucket several times each day. No waste will be allowed to remain on the tipping floor overnight; however, waste may be stored in transfer trailers overnight for unloading the following morning.

The tipping floor will be washed down in whole or in part as necessary. The wash-down water collection system is properly maintained and contributes no additional odor.

Currently, wash water is supplied by the local public water system. The pressure and water volume of the current water supply system are inadequate for the wash-down needs of the facility. To remedy the lack of water supply and pressure, the transfer facility will incorporate a 2500 gallon water storage tank. The storage tank will be filled by rainwater, collected from building gutters, and from the existing local supply, if needed. A shut off type switch will prevent the local service from overfilling the tank. A pressure pump accompanying the storage tank will be used to supply adequate pressure and volume for wash-down. Should rainwater and City of Marion water sources be inadequate to attain full tank storage, water will be purchased and delivered by truck.

Vectors

Vectors include rodents, flies and mosquitoes. Control of vectors is accomplished by eliminating access to food and harborage. Complete removal of all waste and proper cleaning of the tipping floor is part of a proper vector control operation. Removal of weeds, tall grass and standing water on the transfer site reduces the areas of habitation for rodents as well as flies and mosquitoes. Extermination is used in cases of severe infestation. Vector extermination will be provided by McDowell County personnel when necessary and will eliminate vector infestation.

Periodic re-grading of low areas or ditches will be performed to eliminate standing water.

Litter

Litter comes from unsecured loads of waste, the tipping floor and indiscriminate dumping. Litter control is provided as follows:

- 1) Haulers are required to have waste covered and secured on the vehicle. Unsecured loads are refused at the facility.
- 2) Waste is loaded into transfer trailers as soon as possible to minimize blowing of litter.
- 3) Waste by-pass to the trailer floor when loading trailers is minimized by correct loading procedures.
- 4) Full loads are immediately covered to prevent litter while waiting for transportation.
- 5) Litter is picked up on a daily basis by operating personnel.

Fire

The County has an aggressive program of fire prevention. The relatively remote location precludes the likelihood of a fire leaving the premises and endangering other property. All on-site buildings and equipment are equipped with fire extinguishers and all personnel are trained in the use of fire extinguishing devices. Qualified personnel regularly inspect equipment. While the hoses and water supply used for wash-down purposes are not adequate for fire suppression, they are available as a supplemental measure if necessary.

If a vehicle arrives at the transfer station with a load of burning waste, the waste load will be discharged onto a designated, non-hazardous location adjacent to the transfer station. The non-burning waste will be segregated and processed where practical and the remaining waste will be soaked with water until all evidence of combustion are eliminated. Only after a proper cool-down period and further inspection will the waste be loaded into a transfer trailer.

Local fire departments will be notified as needed. Local fire departments will be notified through the 911 emergency notification system. Fire Departments at Marion, NC and Dysartsville, NC are located within 5 minutes response time.

Wash Down Water

Wash-down water is generated through drainage of waste on the MSW tipping floor and the periodic washing of the MSW tipping floor. All waste liquids and wash-down water are designed to drain from the tipping floor to the trailer-loading bay. No area of the tipping floor drains exterior of the building.

Wash-down water is collected through a floor drain system located in the trailer-loading bay. Liquids entering the trailer-loading bay then drain to the enclosed end of the trailer-loading bay, into a trench type collection drain. From there it travels via gravity to a 1500 gallon underground collection tank. The tank level is monitored by operation personnel and pumped out and transported to the City of Marion, NC sewage treatment facility for processing.

Tipper type waste trailers used in this operation retain liquids better than other type waste trailers which will lessen the volume of liquids reaching the liquid collection system.

UNACCEPTABLE WASTE

The County accepts only wastes for which the site is permitted. Loads arriving for deposit are first screened at the scales. Any unacceptable waste is rejected at this point and the vehicle is not allowed to proceed to the tipping area. The County will screen a minimum of 1% of the incoming loads in accordance with procedures approved by the State Solid Waste Section. Personnel performing the screening will be properly trained and outfitted with personal protective equipment that is appropriate to the waste being screened. A waste screening form that will be used to document the inspections has been included as an appendix to this manual. The reports will be maintained on site for reference and inspection.

In the event unacceptable waste is inadvertently discharged at the transfer station, the County will locate the hauler of the waste. When located, the hauler will be directed to remove the waste from the premises immediately. If the waste is not removed expeditiously, the County will arrange for removal and proper disposal and bill the cost to the generator or the hauler. In cases where the unacceptable waste constitutes an imminent threat, the County will notify proper State and local authorities and take appropriate action to immediately remove the material.

APPENNDIX E

ADDENDUM TO McDOWELL COUNTY OPERATIONS PLAN JANUARY 2013

Due to the fact that contractors can change, we are listing our current contractors in an addendum. Contractors will be changed as necessary.

Reference Page 5 – **Waste Transfer**

1. Scrap Tire Transfer

U.S. Tire Recycling, 6322 Poplar Tent Road, Concord, NC 28027, is our current tire hauler.

2. Yard Waste Transfer

We are entertaining contract bids for quarterly grind and removal.

Reference Page 6 – Waste Transfer

3. White Goods Transfer

We contract with Tri-State Scrap Metal, Inc., P.O. Box 8160, Asheville, NC 28814.

4. MSW Transfer

We contract with Republic Industries/Foothills Landfill, 2800 Cheraw Rd., Lenoir, NC 28645

5. Electronics/Computer Recycling

We are currently using GEEP 2710 Weck Drive, Durham, NC 27713

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